

SITUATION REPORT NO. 20
INCIDENT NO. 2000-016
DATE: July 13, 2000 TIME: 4:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Flooding and ground saturation – Due to a series of storms and high water tables, resulting from eight years of consecutive flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: The National Weather Service forecast today is for isolated early morning thundershowers southwest, otherwise it will be mostly sunny and warm with highs 85 northeast to 95 far south central. Tonight it will be clear to partly cloudy with a slight chance of late night thunderstorms far west and far north central. The extended forecast for Friday night and Saturday indicates a chance of thunderstorms with highs 80 to 90. Sunday it will be mainly dry and Monday there is a chance of thunderstorms west and central with highs 75 to 80.

Dickey County emergency manager reported that 1.35 inches of rain fell in a 20 minute period on the afternoon of July 12, in the city of Ellendale. Intersections were flooded in Oakes and Ellendale, with a report of a collapsed basement in one home. Barricading was used on the flooded intersections in both communities. Southeast of Ellendale, 2 inches of rain was reported.

Benson County reported that on July 11 the Northeast part of the county received 6 inches of rain and several other areas received between 2 to 3 inches. There were reports that a sewer system caved in and individual driveways were inundated. Benson County officials are assessing additional damages due to recent storms. Some roads were closed to traffic for safety reasons.

Pembina County emergency manager indicates that the mosquito population is very high. Drayton mosquito trap numbers have increased from 77 during the week of June 19 – June 26 to 2208 the week of June 26 – July 3.

4. RESOURCES:
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.
STATE: No change from previous reports.
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: The American Red Cross has 17 cases open at this time. The Red Cross operation has downsized their staff from 270 to 48.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS:
Mountrail, Richland and Ward County Boards of Commissioners issued an emergency Declaration on July 13, for its citizens due to spring runoff, high water table and torrential rains that have caused damages to homes and businesses.

Excessive rains in Ramsey County on July 12 have caused a 0.2 foot rise in Devils Lake. Indications are that the lake level will remain below 1446.5. However, any additional heavy rainfall will have a greater effect on the lake.

The USDA Farm Service Agency indicated that counties must show 40 percent increase or 40 percent decrease in annual precipitation before CRP land will be opened for use.

A Ward County extension agent has indicated that plant disease is a concern, especially Scab, due to saturated soil and warm humid conditions that prevail throughout the State.

A Cass County extension agent indicated that farmers will suffer total losses of some forage crops along flooded rivers and drainage areas and rains have reduced quality.

Pembina County and the city of Drayton is requesting financial assistance for eradicating mosquitoes.

Burleigh, Pembina, Renville and Rolette County officials have requested preliminary damage assessments as a result of severe storms July 11. These have been scheduled for Friday, July 14 and Monday, July 17, 2000.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director